

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 3, 4, 9, 17, 19, and 20 have been amended hereby. Claims 1, 9, and 17 are in independent form. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of Claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. §101, as being directed to non-statutory matter.

Independent Claim 1 has been amended in part to recite “A computer-readable medium that stores a computer program that makes a computer . . .” Independent Claims 1, 9, and 17 have been amended in part to recite “storing a relationship,” and to recite first and second network layers managed by first and second management apparatuses.

Support for the aforementioned amendments can be found at Page 9, line 21 to page 11, line 4, and FIGS. 3-8 of the filed application, for example.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent Claims 1, 9, and 17, and the claims depending therefrom, are directed to statutory subject matter and meet all requirements of 35 U.S.C. §101.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of Claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a), as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,611,867 (“*Bowman*”).

It is respectfully submitted that *Bowman* fails to teach or suggest “instructing the second management apparatus to change the configuration of the second network layer, based on the first configuration information and the second configuration information updated when a notification that notifies a change in the configuration of the first network layer is received from the first management apparatus,” as recited in amended independent Claims 1, 9, and 17.

The Office Action at page 3, cites col. 71, lines 14-20 of *Bowman*, as allegedly teaching changing the configuration of the second layer when the first layer is changed. It is submitted that, at best, the cited portion of *Bowman* is teaching changing the configuration of the network to ensure that network capacity is ready for the provisioning of services. Nowhere in *Bowman* is taught or suggested instructing the second-management apparatus to change the configuration of the second network layer, based on the first configuration information and the second configuration information updated when a notification that notifies a change in the configuration of the first network layer is received from the first management apparatus.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent Claims 1, 9, and 17, and the claims depending therefrom, are not anticipated by *Bowman*.

Conclusion

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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